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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Complete Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A biocidal composition comprising composite particles, each of said composite particles containing a shell and a core, said core ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a metal or metal-containing compound wherein the metal is a moiety selected from the group consisting of zinc, copper, bismuth, silver, zirconium, and combinations thereof, and said shell ~~containing~~ consisting essentially of a metal pyrithione formed by reaction of pyrithione acid or a water-soluble salt of pyrithione with a portion of the metal or metal-containing compound of said core.

2.-37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended) A biocidal composition comprising composite particles containing a shell and a core, said core ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a metal or a metal-containing compound selected from the group consisting of zinc, copper, bismuth, silver, iron, titanium, aluminum, zirconium and combinations thereof and said shell ~~containing~~ consisting essentially of a metal pyrithione formed by reaction of pyrithione acid or a water-soluble salt of pyrithione with a portion of the metal or metal-containing compound of said core.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said shell ~~comprises~~ consists of zinc pyrithione, and said core ~~comprises~~ consists of zinc or a zinc-containing compound selected from zinc oxide and zinc selenide, said zinc pyrithione being formed by reaction of pyrithione acid or a water-soluble salt of pyrithione with a portion of the zinc oxide or zinc selenide from said core.

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41. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 38 wherein said shell ~~comprises~~ consists of zinc pyrithione, and said core ~~comprises~~ consists of zinc or a zinc-containing compound selected from zinc oxide and zinc selenide, said zinc pyrithione being formed by reaction of pyrithione acid or a water-soluble salt of pyrithione with a portion of the zinc oxide or zinc selenide from said core.

42. (Currently amended) A biocidal composition comprising composite particles, each of said composite particles containing a shell and a core, said core ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a metal or metal-containing compound wherein the metal is a moiety selected from the group consisting of zinc, copper, bismuth, silver, zirconium, and combinations thereof, and said shell ~~containing~~ consisting essentially of a metal pyrithione formed by reaction of pyrithione acid or a water-soluble salt of pyrithione with a portion of the metal or metal-containing compound of said core, with the proviso that when the metal is copper then the metal pyrithione and the metal or metal-containing compound are present within a weight range of ratios of from 1:20 to 20:1 of metal pyrithione relative to the metal or metal-containing compound.

43. (Previously presented) The biocidal composition of claim 1 wherein said water soluble salt of pyrithione is selected from the group consisting of sodium pyrithione, potassium pyrithione, lithium pyrithione, ammonium pyrithione, tert-butyl amine pyrithione, calcium pyrithione, dithiobis (pyridine-N-oxide), a magnesium salt adduct of dithiobis (pyridine-N-oxide), and combinations thereof.

44. (Previously presented) The biocidal composition of claim 38 wherein said water soluble salt of pyrithione is selected from the group consisting of sodium pyrithione, potassium pyrithione, lithium pyrithione, ammonium pyrithione, tert-butyl amine pyrithione, calcium pyrithione, dithiobis (pyridine-N-oxide), a magnesium salt adduct of dithiobis (pyridine-N-oxide), and combinations thereof.

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45. (Previously presented) The biocidal composition of claim 42 wherein said water soluble salt of pyrrithione is selected from the group consisting of sodium pyrrithione, potassium pyrrithione, lithium pyrrithione, ammonium pyrrithione, tert-butyl amine pyrrithione, calcium pyrrithione, dithiobis (pyridine-N-oxide), a magnesium salt adduct of dithiobis (pyridine-N-oxide), and combinations thereof.

46. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 42 wherein said shell consists of zinc pyrrithione, and said core consists of zinc or a zinc-containing compound selected from zinc oxide and zinc selenide, said zinc pyrrithione being formed by reaction of pyrrithione acid or a water-soluble salt of pyrrithione with a portion of the zinc oxide or zinc selenide from said core.

47. (Withdrawn) The biocidal composition of claim 1, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of bismuth, silver, and combinations thereof.

48. (Withdrawn) The biocidal composition of claim 38, wherein the metal or the metal-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of bismuth, silver, iron, titanium, aluminum, and combinations thereof.

49. (Withdrawn) The biocidal composition of claim 42, wherein the metal is a moiety selected from the group consisting of bismuth, silver, and combinations thereof.